

FLARE PISTOL SECTION 1?

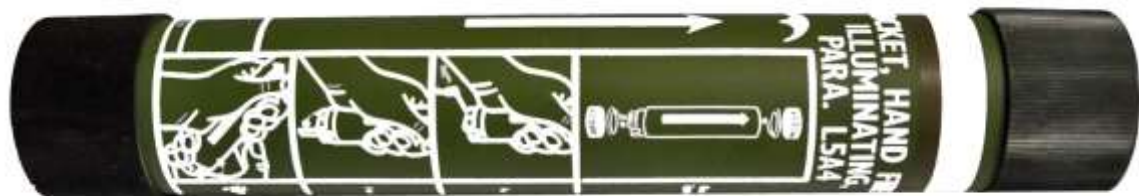
1. Section 57 (1) of the Firearms Act 1968 says:

“In this Act, the expression ‘firearm’ means a lethal barrelled weapon of any description from which any shot, bullet or other missile can be discharged (and includes any prohibited weapon, any component of such a lethal or prohibited weapon).”

2. Section 1 (2) of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 says:

“... or a firearm designed as signalling apparatus”

3. The question is: does the description of a firearm have to satisfy all 3 of the criteria “lethal”... “barrelled”... “weapon”?
4. A parachute flare, like a flare pistol, is lethal and barrelled, but is clearly, like a flare pistol, not designed as a weapon (opinion). However, flare pistols are commonly held on a Section 1 Firearm Certificate, and a parachute flare is not.



Parachute flare

5. Section 13 of the Firearms Act 1968 deals with the removal of signalling apparatus from ships, aircraft and aerodrome's. This section does not apply to parachute flares.
6. Whilst there are lots of opinions and guidance to be found concerning flare pistols, the question remains are they weapons?
7. The Schermuly line thrower is described in 'guidance on Firearms Licencing Law' 2.57 d) which says:

d) line throwing implements used for saving life of those in vessels in distress;

8. This is a hand held device based on the 1 inch flare pistol. It is chambered and will accept a flare cartridge, however *"In the absence of a decision by a court, the Secretary of State takes the view that the following should not be regarded as firearms within the definition of the Act:"* (2.57)
9. This line throwing "apparatus" is a flare pistol with an additional length of tube fixed to the muzzle to house the rocket which is ignited by firing a blank cartridge.



Schermuly line thrower

10. Below are a selection of the flare pistols held in the Helston Forensics library for your interest.



Ref 01
1942 pyrotechnic M-8



Ref 02
Ceska' zbrojovka
AKC spol.v praze



Ref 03
Harrington & Richardson arms co.
Worcester Mass USA, Mark VI, 1"



Ref 04
International Flare Signal Co.
pistol pyrotechnic - M2



Ref 05
1" signal pistol



Ref 06
WW2 German LP-42
flare signal pistol



Ref 07
Castelli Brescia signal pistol



Ref 08
SAPL signal pistol



Ref 09
WW2 Japanese Navy type 90, three
barrel flare pistol
By Kayaba Kogyo.k.k.
second variation



Ref 10
1941 German model "L" double
barrel flare pistol



Ref 11
USN signal pistol mark 5
R F Sedley inc. 1942



Ref 12
Remington Arms Co.
Mark 3 signal pistol



Ref 13
 Webley & Scott Ltd
 Birmingham No 3, Mark I signal
 pistol



Ref 14
 International Flare Signal Co.
 Ohio, Aug '43



Ref 15
 WW2 signal pistol
 Webley Pattern



Ref 16
 WW2 signal pistol
 No 1. M+S, Webley Pattern



Ref 17
 WW2 signal pistol
 Webley Pattern



Ref 18
 Webley & Scott Ltd, MK III
 British Army WW1



Ref 19
Schermuly line thrower



Ref 20
Webley & Scott
No 2. Mark I



Ref 21
Signal pistol AC43 aircraft 26.5mm



Ref 22
German signal pistol



Ref 23
International Flare Signal Co.
Ohio, Sept '43



Ref 24
German Imperial Navy signal pistol,
Model 1899, manufactured by Werft
Kiel Navy Yard



Ref 25
German military alloy signal pistol,
1943



Ref 26
QED
Borough Green, Kent, England



Ref 27
Webley & Scott
Model M flare pistol



Ref 28
German military alloy signal pistol,
1940



Ref 29
WW1 German Hebel signal pistol



Ref 30
Schemuly line thrower



Ref 31
Walther Kriegsmarine stainless steel
flare pistol, double barrel, 1936



Ref 32
International Flare Signal Co.
Ohio, Aug'43



Ref 33
Cogswell & Harrison
London signal pistol



Ref 34
H&K 26.5mm signal pistol
Model P2A1



Ref 35
Webley & Scott
No 3, mark I (1939)



Ref 36
Dyer & Robson
London verys patent



Ref 37
WW1 German signal pistol



Ref 38
1" flare pistol



Ref 39
Webley & Scott Ltd
flare pistol



Ref 40
British WW2 1" steel signal pistol



Ref 41
Olin Winchester 25mm signal flare
launcher



Ref 42
Webley & Scott Ltd
WW1 flare pistol



Ref 43
WW2 German signal pistol LP-42



Ref 44
Webley-Schermuly signal pistol



Ref 45
SPRA line thrower



Ref 46
Webley aircraft signal pistol
No 4, mark I



Ref 47
25mm flare launcher for marine signal purpose, mark XXV
Olin - East Alton ILL